

YEAR FOUR INQUIRY UNITS 2017

Sharing the Planet

An inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things; communities and the relationships within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

Central Idea:

“Resolving conflict enables us to live peacefully.”

Key Concepts:

Responsibility: What is our responsibility?

Causation: Why is it like it is?

Perspective: What are the points of view?

Learner Profile: Caring, Communicators

Attitudes: Empathy, Tolerance, Respect.

Transdisciplinary Skills: Accepting responsibility, Respecting others, Resolving conflict.

How we Organise Ourselves

An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations, societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

Central Idea:

“Communities are affected by the actions of international aid organisations.”

Key Concepts:

Function-How does it work?

Causation: Why is it like it is?

Learner Profile: Risk-takers and Principled

Attitudes: Empathy, Commitment and Integrity

Transdisciplinary Skills: Application and Planning

How the World Works

An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

Central Idea:

“Energy is transformed from one form to another and can be used to develop a sustainable future.”

Key Concepts:

Change: How has it changed?

Form: What is it like?

Learner Profile: Thinkers and Inquirers

Attitudes: Curiosity and Cooperation

Transdisciplinary Skills: Observing and Presenting research findings.

How we Express Ourselves

An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

Central Idea:

“Literature helps understand and express our individuality through the written word.”

Key Concepts:

Perspective: What are the points of view?

Form: What is it like?

Connection: How is it connected to other things?

Learner Profile: Communicators and Balanced

Attitudes: Confidence, Enthusiasm, Creativity.

Transdisciplinary Skills: Comprehension, Listening, Speaking, and Presenting

Who We Are

An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social, and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to human.

Central Idea:

“Many cultures share core values and beliefs which can foster connection.”

Key Concepts:

Connection: Why is it like it is?

Perspective: What are the points of view?

Learner Profile: Open-minded and Knowledgeable

Attitudes: Curiosity and Appreciation

Transdisciplinary Skills: Collecting, Recording, Interpreting and organising data.

Where we are in Place and Time

An inquiry into orientation in place and time, personal histories; homes and journeys, the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

Central Idea:

“Throughout history, civilizations have had common needs and wants.”

Key Concepts:

Connection: How is it connected to other things?

Function How does it work?

Reflection: How do we know?

Learner Profile: Reflective and Inquirers

Attitudes: Independence

Transdisciplinary Skills: Formulating questions, Organisation and Time-management.